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Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence 31st December, 1960

PETER PAN TALKS TO THE CN

And Wendy also puts in a word

By Peter London

Julia Lockwood bounded forward to meet the tea trolley in the rehearsal room of London's Scala Theatre, then, bringing her tea back, she said: "Playing Peter Pan is like swimming or riding a bicycle. Once you've learned it you never forget."

Julia speaks with authority, for this is the second year in succession she has played Peter, and in the previous two seasons she was Wendy.

I HAD asked her whether she had any difficulty in learning the part each year. "No. I go through it again and soon find it all coming back to me," she replied. "In fact, when I took the script to bed with me the other night (she learns her lines mainly in bed) I found that not only did I know Peter and Wendy's parts, but everybody else's as well!"

Julia admitted that playing Peter Pan has one or two curious effects

Julia Lockwood

on her. "When I'm working in this play I find myself squatting cross-legged on the floor at every opportunity. I don't do that normally. And if anybody touches me, puts their hand on my arm, say, I find myself leaping away, just like Peter Pan."

Neither of these odd effects worries her in the slightest and she is delighted to be in Barrie's immortal play once more. She is now quite a tall girl of 19, very slim, with short fair hair. "It will have to be shorter still before the first night," she told me.

Since she last talked to me in the same rehearsal room three years ago, Julia Lockwood has been playing more adult roles in films and television, and had one I.T.V. series specially written for her. But she is still the same level-headed girl, completely natural and unaffected.

However, I must report one slight but important physical difference. Earlier this year Julia had her nose slightly altered by plastic surgery. She now has a delicious straight nose. Previously, she says, one side of her nose was different from the other, very awkward for filming. More recently she had her tonsils removed. And she feels "wonderful."

Secret hobby

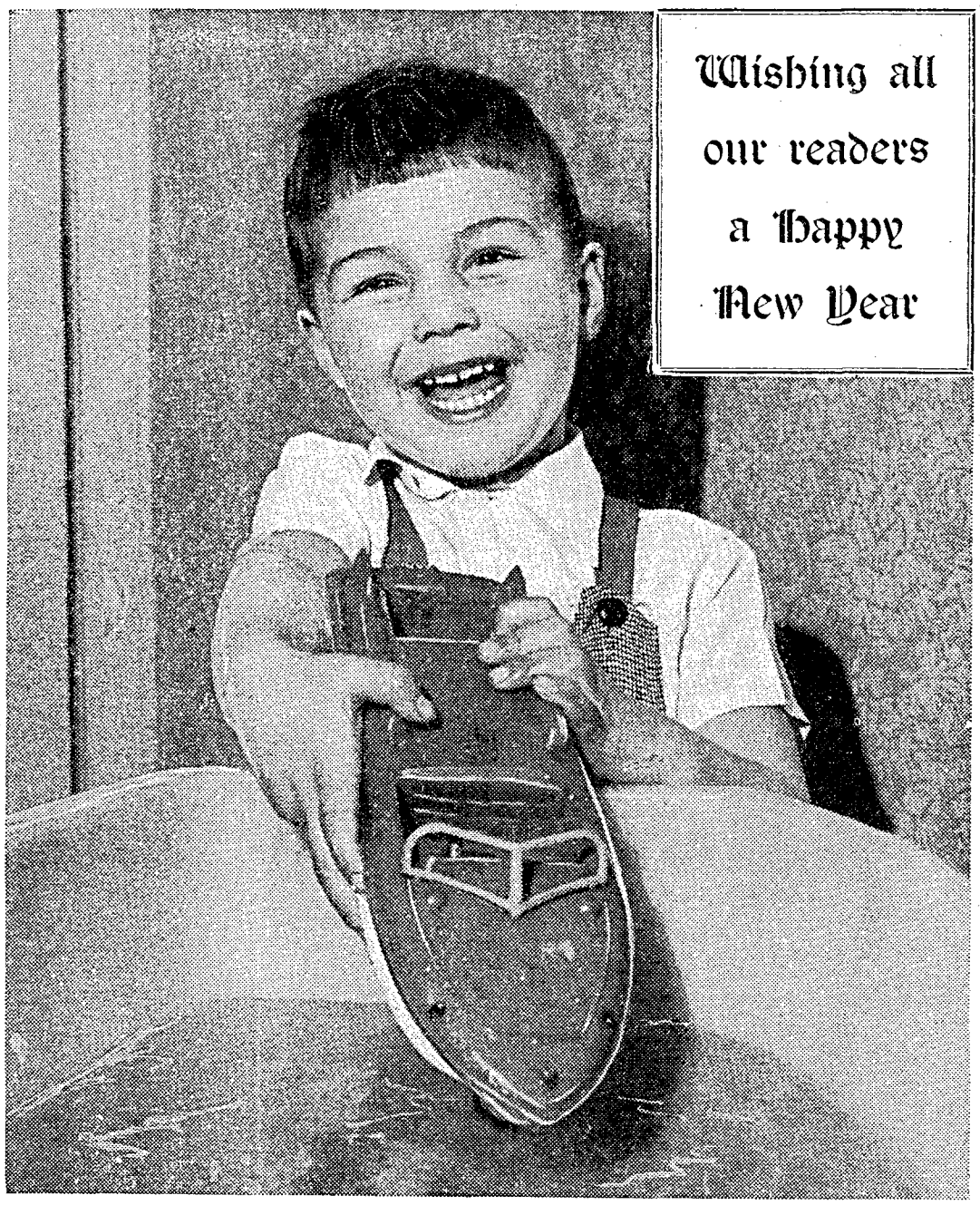
On her 19th birthday, celebrated on the set at Pinewood film studios, where the studio crew gave her a birthday cake, she also moved into her own flatlet in a big block near the Thames. She lives alone there, does her own cooking and shopping, but not, she is happy to say, her own cleaning.

Her "secret" hobby is still writing poetry. "Well, verse of all kinds." Has any of it been published? "Heavens, no. It isn't good enough. I don't think I dare show it to anybody. No—I just love scribbling poetry."

Julia is specially looking forward to *Peter Pan* this year, for playing the part of Wendy is her old friend Juliet Mills. Both daughters of famous film stars, they met ten years ago at a reception for their parents. "We glared at each other—and have been friends ever since," said Julia.

As the names Julia and Juliet are so similar both girls find that their childhood nicknames are

Continued on page 2



Wishing all our readers a happy New Year

Child's play

Stephen Waddington spends a lot of time with boats. He is grandson of a boat-builder at Swinton, near Doncaster, and recently he launched a big barge. Here he is repeating the operation with a model motor-boat in the bath at home.

Airstrip on a coral island

How to lay a steel airstrip on a small island surrounded by a dangerous coral reef and with no harbour was the problem confronting two R.A.F. men. They are Warrant Officer S. W. Bushell and Corporal Bayliss, on Hulele in the Maldive Islands of the Indian Ocean.

No bulldozers or other machinery were available. The work had to be done by pick and shovel, but none of the 200 Maldive Islanders who were to do it could speak a word of English!

By signs the white men indicated that they wanted a space 3,000 feet long and 50 feet wide hacked out of a tangle of trees and bushes. And when willing hands had accomplished this, the constructors' headaches were only beginning. A load of 700 tons of perforated steel strips for the runway had somehow to be landed.

The ship bringing it anchored a mile away. A lighter brought it to within a few hundred yards of the island, and then the islanders faced the tricky task of ferrying the strips to the sands on their canoes. Safely landed, the mass of steel had to be manhandled to the airfield site.

Now, after four months of gruelling work in the burning sun, the constructors have finished the job, and it means that the islanders are now within much easier reach of the rest of the world.

New roses for the Queen

The gardens of Buckingham Palace will be even more sweet-scented next Summer, for 125 Silver Lining rose bushes have recently been planted out. Given to the Queen by the National Rose Society to commemorate the birth of Prince Andrew, these roses are a variety bred by Mr. Alex Dickson in his famous nurseries at Newtownards, County Down.

With its petals of pink on the inside and silvery hue on the outside, this rose took eight years to produce and won the Society's 1958 award as the best-scented rose of the year.

Princess at the level-crossing

Many distinguished people, kings and princes among them, have taken a turn at the controls of a locomotive. Now, through the *British Railways Magazine*, we learn of a princess who has a full-time job as a level-crossing keeper. Princess Madelein von Dembinska is in charge of the Rodbridge crossing at Long Melford, Suffolk.

Of royal Polish descent, but born and bred in England, Princess Madelein has always loved trains; and when she heard of a vacancy for a level-crossing keeper, with a cottage thrown in, she wasted no time in applying for the job.

That was three years ago; since then she has diligently carried out a daily round that (Sundays apart) usually begins with the arrival of the first train shortly before six in the morning and ends when the last one goes through after nine at night.

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STATESMAN WITH A MILLION IDEAS

Mr. Dean Rusk, the new U.S. Secretary of State

By the CN Diplomatic Correspondent

The new U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Rusk, has been described by a colleague as a man with a million ideas. Certainly, with the world as it is, he may well need them all, for his is a key appointment, equivalent to that of our Foreign Secretary.

MR. DEAN RUSK was born 51 years ago on a small farm in Georgia, his father being a Presbyterian preacher. Young Dean was sent to school in the city of Atlanta, where he worked hard enough to pass on to the Davidson College in North Carolina.

Taking his degree at the age of 22, he was granted a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University. Then, after three years at St. John's College, he completed his studies at Berlin University and California Law School.

He next settled down in California as a college professor specialising in the arts of government. He might never have come into the news but for having joined the Army during World War II, eventually becoming deputy chief of staff in the Far East.

United Nations specialist

After the war he joined the War Department's general staff in Washington, transferred to the State Department in 1946, left there to become assistant to the Secretary of War, but in 1947 returned to the State Department as a specialist in United Nations Affairs. So Mr. Rusk is well equipped to tackle the urgent problems of foreign affairs in the modern world.

As a personality, this is how a former associate has described him. "He is a human being with whom you feel at ease, a wonderful person to work for."

Diplomacy is, briefly, the management of international relations by negotiation through ambassadors. However, in recent times, we have seen the world's leading statesmen trying to develop a system of "summit" talks to which the normal work of ambassadors has become of secondary importance.

Mr. Rusk, a shrewd bridge-player, believes less in summit meetings than in patient diplomacy at lower levels. Bearing this in mind, we must now look at some of the problems he has inherited from Mr. Christian Herter, his Republican predecessor at the State Department.

First and foremost he faces the unsolved riddle of disarmament. The puzzle is how to get the chief military Powers to reduce their armed forces and weapons without allowing any one Power to have advantage over the others.

Finding the key

Years have been spent in finding the key to this. Meanwhile Russia, which leads the Communist bloc, and the main Western nations—the United States, Britain, and France—have built up large stocks of nuclear weapons and missiles.

For more than two years Russia, the United States, and Britain have been trying to find a way of banning all tests of nuclear weapons. It may be Mr. Rusk's first task to try to bring about a final agreement in this field next Spring.

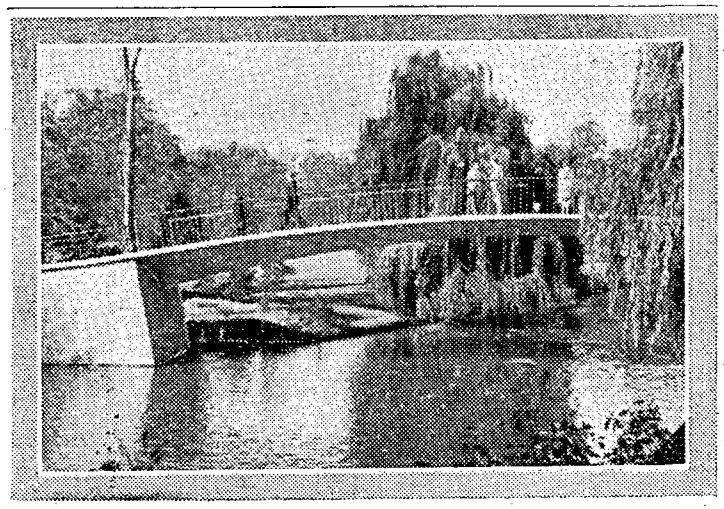
Talks about general disarmament broke down a few months ago. One of the stumbling-blocks is Russia's insistence that her great Communist ally, China, should be brought into these talks. China, with more than 600 million people, has the biggest population of any country in the world.

Coupled with this is the further demand, now supported by many countries in the West as well as the East, that Communist China should be admitted to the United Nations.

Mr. Rusk, as Secretary of State, has also inherited the "African problem." In the former Belgian Congo, a United Nations force sent in to preserve law and order has so far failed in its mission. This failure brings to the forefront the whole question of reorganising the United Nations so as to strengthen its prestige and authority as keeper of the world's peace.

Finally, a fresh start may have to be made to prevent the problem of Berlin—isolated in Communist East Germany and divided between Communist and Western administrators—from bursting into trouble.

These are all difficult problems. But who knows? A new hand—and new ideas—at the State Department in Washington may bring them under control at last.



OUR HOMELAND The Garret Hostel Bridge at Cambridge, opened a few weeks ago.

Seven Skating Dwarfs

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs have arrived at Wembley; and they will all be there until 25th February in a lavish Walt Disney show on ice at the Empire Pool. Among the many spectacular scenes are the Wishing Well, the Dwarfs' Cottage, the Diamond Mine, and a Journey to Fairyland. In another scene the dwarfs ride round the arena on a comic train.

Incidentally, only two of the Seven Dwarfs could skate when rehearsals started; the other five had to learn while they whistled at their work!

FISH SUPPER FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

Carp ponds in several parts of West Germany have been emptied to supply a traditional New Year's Eve dish. Eating carp on New Year's Eve originated in the ancient German belief that these fish bring good luck. Two carp scales placed in a wallet on New Year's Eve are said to ensure plenty of money during the following year.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

Lord Brabazon, pioneer motorist and airman, has become the 1,000th member of the League of Safe Drivers. He is 76.

Lights which will automatically switch on in water are to be fitted to all life-jackets of the Royal National Life-Boat Institution. Batteries will keep the lights burning for 20 hours.

WAKEY WAKEY!

A new Italian alarm clock for heavy sleepers rings normally at first, then hoots like a car horn, barks, imitates a gunshot, and ends with a noise like an exploding grenade.

Newtown Bay in the Isle of Wight has been acquired by the National Trust. The area includes an oyster fishery which dates back to Roman times and is to be revived.

A three-ton boulder from Bethlehem is to be shaped into a font for Coventry Cathedral.

Wrangel Island in the Arctic has been declared a nature reserve for polar bears, Arctic foxes, seals, walruses, and white geese. It belongs to Russia.

THEY SAY . . .

Most youngsters are studying longer and harder than ever before. They are growing up to read reputable newspapers and the serious literature from public libraries.

Mr. L. Bradbury, headmaster of Ewell Secondary School

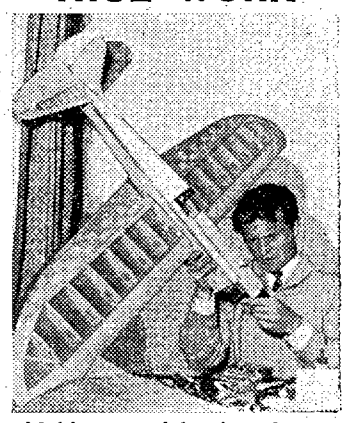
HOLIDAYS ON SKIS

The School Travel Service has arranged for over 1,700 British boys and girls to sample the thrills of ski-ing holidays in Switzerland, Austria, and Italy.

These schoolchildren have been carrying out their pre-ski exercises, and have seen an encouraging film called *A School Goes Ski-ing*. It shows the progress made by a party of pupils who had never worn skis before, but within a week were able to make short expeditions, use a ski-lift, and pass the Bronze Medal test.

Ski-ing holidays can also be enjoyed without leaving Britain. The Scottish ski-ing season has now begun and will last until about the end of April. And this Winter the Highlands are offering more facilities than last. The Cairngorm ski-road, rising to 2,000 feet, is now open, and a ski-lift is operating in Glencoe. Details can be obtained from the Scottish Touring Board, 2 Rutland Place, West End, Edinburgh, 1.

NICE WORK



Making model aircraft at home is the hobby of John Wylie of Walworth, London. He has completed over 150, fitted with engines.

Exit 11¾d x 14

The passing of the farthing from our currency on 1st January will also mean its passing from our school sums.

The heads of all schools in the administrative county of Kesteven (in Lincolnshire) have already received instructions from the Director of Education that farthings need no longer be included in arithmetic lessons, and that the next 11-plus examinations will not include problems with farthings.

PETER PAN TALKS TO THE CN

Continued from page 1

now very useful. So Julia is "Toots" and Juliet "Bunch."

"It's jolly fine having Julia with me," said Juliet, who had now joined us. "She is very good at passing on tips about how to play Wendy — specially the flying part!"

Juliet Mills

As we talked I discovered that Julia and Juliet have several things in common. They are both 19; they have both made their stage début as Alice in Wonderland; they both have First Night nerves; and they both have the same way of trying to overcome them.

"I always go to the pictures before the show," said Julia Lockwood.

"So do I," said Juliet Mills. "And I did on the opening night of *Five Finger Exercise* in London, after I had been to the hairdresser. When I came out it was pouring with rain, and not being able to get a bus or taxi I walked home to Berkeley Square. My new stage hair-do was ruined. I was rushed to the nearest hairdresser and arrived at the theatre less than an hour before curtain up. On a first night, too!"

"How awful!" said Julia.

But this time they took no chances. As they left the theatre to battle with the London rain and rush hour they both put on their raincoats and headscarves.

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LOOK BACK IN JOY!

Some memorable smiles of 1960

The Queen and Prince Philip leaving Luton Church after morning service on their 13th wedding anniversary (20th November). With them is the Vicar, Canon William Davison.

The Queen Mother with her three grandchildren on her 60th birthday (4th August).

Mr. John Kennedy and Mr. Richard Nixon, after the American elections.

Sir Winston Churchill leaving for a holiday in the South of France.

Nigerian Independence—Princess Alexandra at Lagos with the Nigerian Premier.

A friendly exchange between Mr. Macmillan and Mr. Krushchev during the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York.

A happy picture of Queen Sirikit of Thailand during her visit to Buckingham Palace in July.

All smiles in Rome—U.S. sprinter Wilma Rudolph with her three Olympic gold medals.

Princess Margaret and Mr. Antony Armstrong-Jones out driving in Dominica during their honeymoon in the Caribbean.

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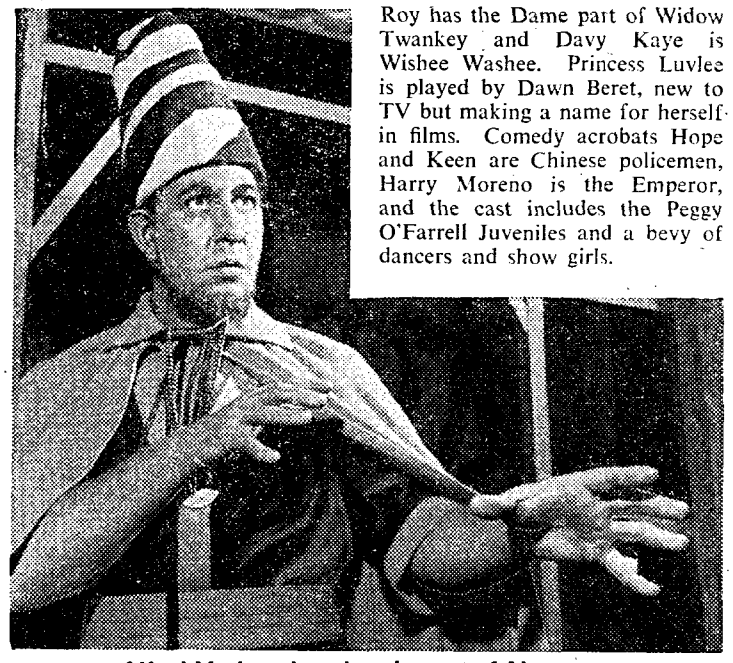
THIS ALADDIN REALLY IS A BOY

A MAGIC cave gleaming with jewels will be a scenic highlight of Aladdin, B.B.C. television's pantomime on Saturday. Producer Richard Afton says it is panto in the old style—not just a sort of variety show—with a genuine story running through it.

Alfred Marks, as the wicked magician Abanazar, will be able to show off his fine singing voice besides acting the clownish villain.

Another comic role is the Grand Vizier, played by double-talk man Stanley Unwin, who only last month retired from the B.B.C. as an engineer. He tells me it was while acting in a B.B.C. amateur production of *Aladdin* some years ago that he hit on the comic possibilities of speaking gibberish.

One difference from ordinary panto is that Aladdin, the Principal Boy, will be a male. He is Irving Davies, well known as a dancer as well as actor. Derek Roy has the Dame part of Widow Twankey and Davy Kaye is Wishee Washee. Princess Luvlee is played by Dawn Beret, new to TV but making a name for herself in films. Comedy acrobats Hope and Keen are Chinese policemen, Harry Moreno is the Emperor, and the cast includes the Peggy O'Farrell Juveniles and a bevy of dancers and show girls.



Alfred Marks, who takes the part of Abanazar.

This Mother Goose will have a Canadian accent

MOTHER GOOSE will have a Canadian accent on I.T.V. this Wednesday evening. So will her son Jack. They are played by Toronto comedians Johnnie Wayne and Frank Shuster (seen in my picture) in a Canadian presentation of the panto which Granada are networking to all regions.

This pair not only star in the show but wrote it all—music, lyrics, and dialogue.

The action takes place in the Land of Let's Pretend, and the story opens as Mother Goose returns through space on her penny-farthing bicycle after a visit to Earth.

Her daughter Jill is played by Joan Fairfax and Boy Blue by Bob Goulet, one of Canada's popular young singers.

Watch out for Priscilla the Goose, who lays the golden eggs. Jack Medhurst is the man inside the feathery disguise.

Wayne and Shuster—a comedy act for 20 years—were school friends, went to Toronto University together, and, at the outbreak of the Second World War, joined the Army together. They toured the garrison theatres of Britain in the Canadian Army Show.

Your favourite detectives

REQUEST Week in B.B.C. Children's Hour, now in full swing, has revealed that Norman and Henry Bones, the boy detectives, are listeners' top favourites. To celebrate the occasion, author Anthony C. Wilson has written a special adventure story, *Hobbilight Hall,* which will be heard on Saturday.

In second place is *Polly and Oliver Besieged,* by David Scott Daniel, so the final episode of the last series, *The Forlorn Hope,* will be re-broadcast this Wednesday evening.

David Scott Daniel has another new play, in two parts, coming up on Sunday when listeners will hear the first episode of *The Boy They Made King.* This is about Lambert Simnel, son of an Oxford tradesman, who was put forward by Yorkist plotters in 1487 as Earl of Warwick and true heir to the throne of Henry VII.

All about the new films

NEWS about the world of entertainment is to get more time in B.B.C. Children's Hour. Next Monday I hear, Producer Graham Gauld will introduce *Film Review,* a new magazine programme about current films and plays. There will be reports on the latest films, and not only those showing in London's West End but those generally released in the suburbs and provinces.

Plays likely to interest young people will also be discussed and each programme will include interviews with stars from film, stage, and variety, as well as a visit behind the scenes.

THE FLYING DOCTOR TAKES OFF AGAIN

The Flying Doctor in the Light Programme is popular with listeners of all ages. On Friday a new series begins, with James McKechnie in his original role as Dr. Chris Rogers and Bill Kerr as pilot Tommy O'Donnell. Rosemary Miller is back as Nurse May West and Bettina Dickson as radio operator Sally McAndrew.

My picture shows them in a tense scene during the series.

Having watched a *Flying Doctor* production from the control gallery, I can tell you that the performers really do act their parts, although only reading from scripts. "When we're reading radio parts we *are* the people in the situations represented," Bill Kerr told me.

Another successful Light feature staging a comeback is *Let's Find Out.* Next Monday sees the start of a new series. A teenage audience questions two different celebrities each week

TV AND RADIO

by Ernest Thomson

Ballet training is tough

FEW tasks are more arduous than training to be a ballet dancer. To confirm this, tune in to B.B.C. Junior TV next Tuesday.

Brian Johnston goes with the cameras to the Rambert School of Ballet, where his guide will be one of the students, Andre le Fevre. After exercises, some of the pupils will be seen in movements from *Giselle.*

Learn how to dance on ice

GOOD news for viewers who watched the I.T.V. broadcast of Snow White on Ice at Wembley in Christmas week and wished they could dance on ice.

B.B.C. Junior TV takes us on Friday to Manchester Ice Palace for ice dancing lessons by John Slater and Joan Dewhirst, World Professional Ice Dance Champions of 1959 and 1960. They will teach simple waltz steps before demonstrating advanced dancing.

Harry Glick and Yvonne Reyner will be instructing pupils in the basic work of figure and free skating. Alan Weeks, who introduces the programme, will give hints about "Rinkcraft."

MYSTERY OF THE STRANGE BLACK MUD

A HOUSE of mystery on a lonely Scottish island is the scene of *The Blackness,* a new serial beginning in Associated-Rediffusion children's programmes on 10th January.

Barry Pevan, well-known I.T.V. script-writer, has joined forces with Howard Williams of *Lucky Dip* and *Enquiries Unlimited.*

"We decided to put our heads together and turn out a real 'cliff-hanger'," Howard Williams told me. "This is my first attempt at script-writing."

I asked him what the "blackness" was all about.

"It's a strange black mud," he replied. "Just one of the things that makes life difficult for a family of four who are left 'Hill House' by a rich aunt. Father and mother, brother and sister—they find themselves alone on an island that people on the mainland are afraid to visit."

When the circus is over

WHAT happens to circus folk, including the children, when the season is over? Stanley Dangerfield recently went with B.B.C. cameras to Clapham to record pictures of Billy Smart's "Big Top" being dismantled and heading home for Winter quarters at Winkfield Zoo, near Windsor.

We can see what happened on Junior TV next Saturday. The programme includes the Four Willers, said to be the fastest roller skating act in Europe; the Continental clowns Les French; and Alma Piaia, ballerina of the air. Windy Blow the Clown is seen backstage while making-up.

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MARS DRAWS NEARER

Chance to study the Red Planet

LOOKING AT THE SKY WITH PATRICK MOORE

IF you have looked up into the south-eastern sky after dark, you must have seen an object which looks like a particularly bright, very red star. This is the planet Mars, now closer to us than it will be again for some years.

Mars is smaller than the Earth—its diameter being only 4,200 miles. It is farther from the Sun than we are, and so is colder; it has a "year" equal to 687 Earth-days, but its own "day" is half an hour longer than ours. At the present moment it is about 56 million miles away from the Earth. Of all the natural bodies in the Solar System, only the Moon and Venus are closer.

On 30th December, the Sun, the Earth, and Mars will be in more or less a straight line, with the Earth in the middle. Mars and the Sun will thus be opposite in the sky, Mars appearing to be due south at midnight, and at *opposition*.

Seen through a telescope, Mars is a striking object. For instance, we can see the whitish caps covering the poles, caps which are certainly of an icy or frosty nature. But there is no real comparison with the thick ice-caps which cover Antarctica or North Greenland, for the Martian polar caps cannot be more than a few inches thick at most.

Water shortage

Even more interesting are the dark patches, which have been under observation since they were first seen by a Dutch astronomer, Christiaan Huygens, in 1659. The outlines of the patches are permanent, and accurate maps of Mars can be drawn.

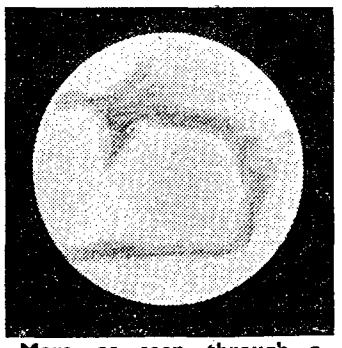
It used to be thought that these dark patches were seas, but this idea is now known to be wrong. The whole planet is desperately short of water; there can be no oceans, and even large lakes are not likely to be found. In 1878 a French scientist, Liais, made the alternative suggestion that plants of some kind were responsible. This was much more reasonable.

It is significant that as the polar caps shrink in the Martian Spring and early Summer, the dark areas seem to harden and become sharper, as though the plants were being affected by the arrival of a certain amount of moisture. But the telescope by itself cannot give us a final answer, and the most recent work, carried out by William Sinton in the United States, makes use of more complicated methods of research.

What Dr. Sinton has done is to detect signs of what we call *organic* compounds in the dark areas. The instruments he used were based on the principle of the spectroscope; the light coming from Mars was analysed, and it became possible to track down definite substances there. Of course, work of this kind has often been done before, but Dr. Sinton's discovery is quite new. It is fair to say that although we cannot state definitely that the dark areas are due to plants, this is much the most likely explanation.

The rest of Mars is reddish-ochre in hue. These bright areas are often called deserts, but they are not sandy wastes such as our Sahara; they are much more probably covered with reddish dust.

The atmosphere of Mars is thin, and contains little oxygen. No earth-creature could breathe it, and it appears to be unsuitable for animal life of any sort. If advanced creatures exist on Mars, they must be built upon a pattern



Mars, as seen through a telescope.

quite different from our own. This is not impossible, of course, but most scientists think that it is rather unlikely. Few astronomers now believe in the existence of intelligent Martians.

Non-existent "canals"

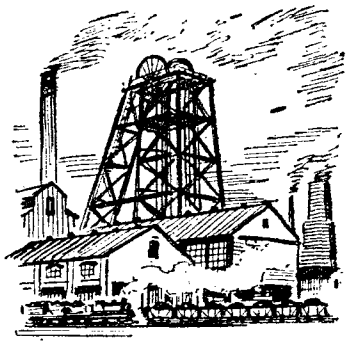
Some mention must be made of the famous "canals," studied more than half a century ago by Percival Lowell. He thought that certain peculiar straight lines crossing the planet were real canals, dug by Martian engineers. However, we now know that there is not enough water on Mars to fill even one major canal, and it seems that the network of lines drawn by Lowell does not exist as such.

A few weeks ago I looked at Mars through my own telescope. I could see the northern polar cap, the ochre deserts, and many of the dark areas, including the V-shaped patch known as the *Syrtis Major*. The details seem to be clearer than they were at the time of the last *opposition* in 1958, so that we may hope to gain some extra knowledge during the next month or two.

From now on Mars will move away from us, though it will remain brilliant until the early Spring of 1961; and we will have to wait for two years before it is again well placed for observation.

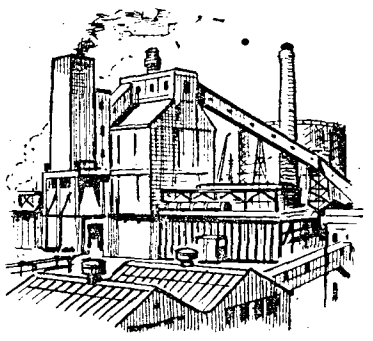
MR THERM'S ABC

Mr. Therm—the sprightly symbol of our important gas industry—is one of the busiest people in Britain. He's everywhere, cooking, heating, freezing, making water hot—and enjoying himself. In this new series, we're going to have a peep at just a few of the thousands of things that are summed up in the cheery words, "Mr. Therm."



A stands for AMMONIA, one of the important by-products of coal. What do we mean by by-products? Well, when coal is turned into gas at the gasworks, there are lots of valuable substances left over. Just as good cooks keep the water vegetables are cooked in to enrich their soups, so Mr. Therm keeps *all* the treasures that can be extracted from coal. From every ton of coal, Mr. Therm gets six pounds of ammonia. When ammonia is combined with sulphuric acid (which also comes from coal!) you get sulphate of ammonia, well known to all farmers and gardeners as a fertiliser. The gas industry produces over 80,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia each year. So Mr. Therm not only cooks your food in his super cookers, he helps to grow it as well!

A also stands for AREA GAS BOARDS. There are twelve of these and between them they are responsible for the gas industry of Great Britain.



B is for BY-PRODUCTS, which we've already mentioned. And in this weather, B is most of all for BACKGROUND HEATING. When you turn on your gas fire, and warm yourself before its cheery glow, the heat you enjoy is called radiant heat; like the sun's rays, radiant heat comes straight at you! But if you go away from the radiant heat, you get cold again—that is, unless you have background heating. The aim of background heating is to keep the temperature of the room at a comfortably warm level all the time, and in this way you get the full benefit of radiant heat as soon as you turn your gas fire on. One of the best ways of getting background heating and radiant warmth is by one of the new room heaters. These not only warm you with radiant heat, but send out warm air to make even the furthest corner cosy. When the heater is turned on, air from the room is sucked in at the bottom, warmed inside the heater, and then passed out again into the room as warmed air. This soon makes the room temperature very pleasant, and gives you a lovely, snug room even in the depths of Winter. In fact, Mr. Therm gives you two fires in one!

C is for COAL CARBONISATION, which is the name given to the process of turning coal into gas at the gasworks. Coal is fed into enclosed ovens, known as retorts, and "baked," at a temperature of 1000° C. This softens the coal, and gas, tar, sulphur and ammonia are driven off in the form of a thick, brown smoke. C is also for COKE, which is what is left after all those other things have been taken out of the coal. After the coke has cooled, it's taken to a special part of the works where it is cleaned and graded into different sizes for use in the home, in factories and on the farm. Coke is one of Mr. Therm's most important by-products. He produces over 15 million tons each year, and it is used in central heating, in laundries, greenhouses, and in agriculture. One of the best things about coke, of course, is that it is clean and smokeless, very important these days when more and more local councils are banning fuels which cause harmful smoke.

Issued by the Gas Council.

OUR GRAND COMPETITION

G·SF·R·	TA·L·	·I·R·R
R·D·O	LA·P	C·AI·

HERE'S WHAT TO DO

Add one letter in place of each dot to complete the words in the panels above—they are all objects to be found in the picture.

List the six answers neatly on a postcard, add your full name, age, and address, then *post it to*:

Mr. Therm's A B C Competition No. 1,
Children's Newspaper,
3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.)

Mr. Therm will award £2 2s. 0d. Book Tokens for the three neatest correct entries (with writing according to age taken into consideration) received by Friday, 6th January, 1961.

WINNERS

The jumbled word in our Time Rocket Competition No. 5 was PITPROP. The three winners are Jennifer Latreille of East Grinstead, Jonathan Hiles of Ilminster, and John Musgrave of Kidderminster.

COOKING IS EASY AS A·B·C WHEN YOU USE CLEAN, SPEEDY GAS

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WHAT A FAMILY! WHAT A

Aboard the wreck, the Robinsons saw up a barrel for making a raft that will get them ashore

Mr. Robinson gets the family aboard the raft and makes for the island

Who would not enjoy family life on a tropical island with a handy wreck just off-shore to supply all the necessities of life, and even some of the luxuries?

This simple but brilliant idea inspired a Swiss pastor, J. D. Wyss, to write that immortal story *The Swiss Family Robinson*, 150 years ago. Now the great Walt Disney has realised a life's ambition in completing a grand picture based on the book.

Filmed on the island of Tobago, close to Trinidad, it has all an island story ought to have—a storm, a wreck, a raft, and then the landing on an island of enchantment.

There are animal shots galore throughout the picture, including an unforgettable sequence of a big black pig saved from the wreck by being literally wrapped in small barrels to keep him afloat. In fact the youngest member of the Robinson family has just about a Zoo-ful of animals to amuse him, from a baby elephant to galloping ostriches.

All this and pirates too

Film stories and book stories need different treatment and so the Robinsons of the picture have one or two adventures which the Robinsons of the novel were spared—the attentions of pirates, for instance. But the light-hearted and ingenious way in which the family deals with these ferocious gentry is as funny as it is harmless to all concerned.

The West Indies setting—blue waters, green palms, wonderful flowers—is delightful, and so is the wonderful tree house built in a huge saman, or rain tree. Walt Disney has now presented this extraordinary residence to the Premier of Tobago and Trinidad as a memorial of the picture. Certainly no one who sees this film will ever forget the tree house or the family who lived there.

The villainous pirate chief

Bertie, the pirates

A young elephant captured by Francis, the youngest son, proves to be a great help

The elder boys go exploring round the island and discover that pirates have la

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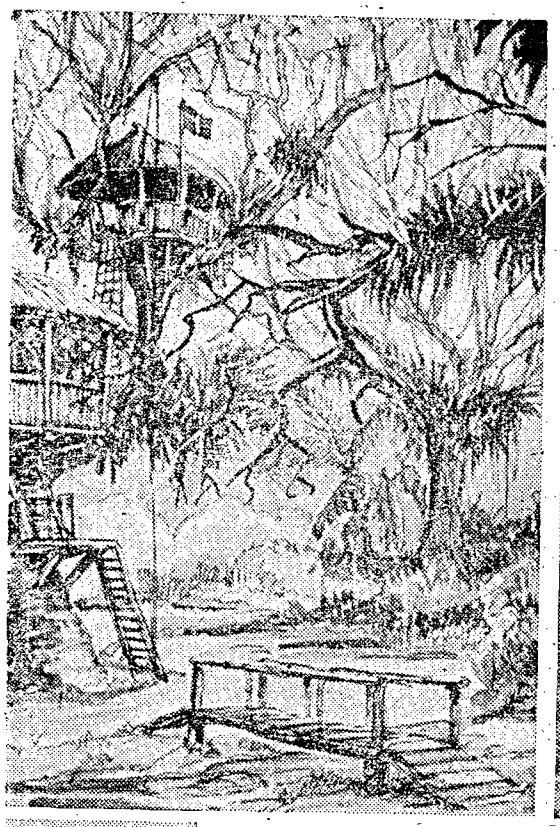
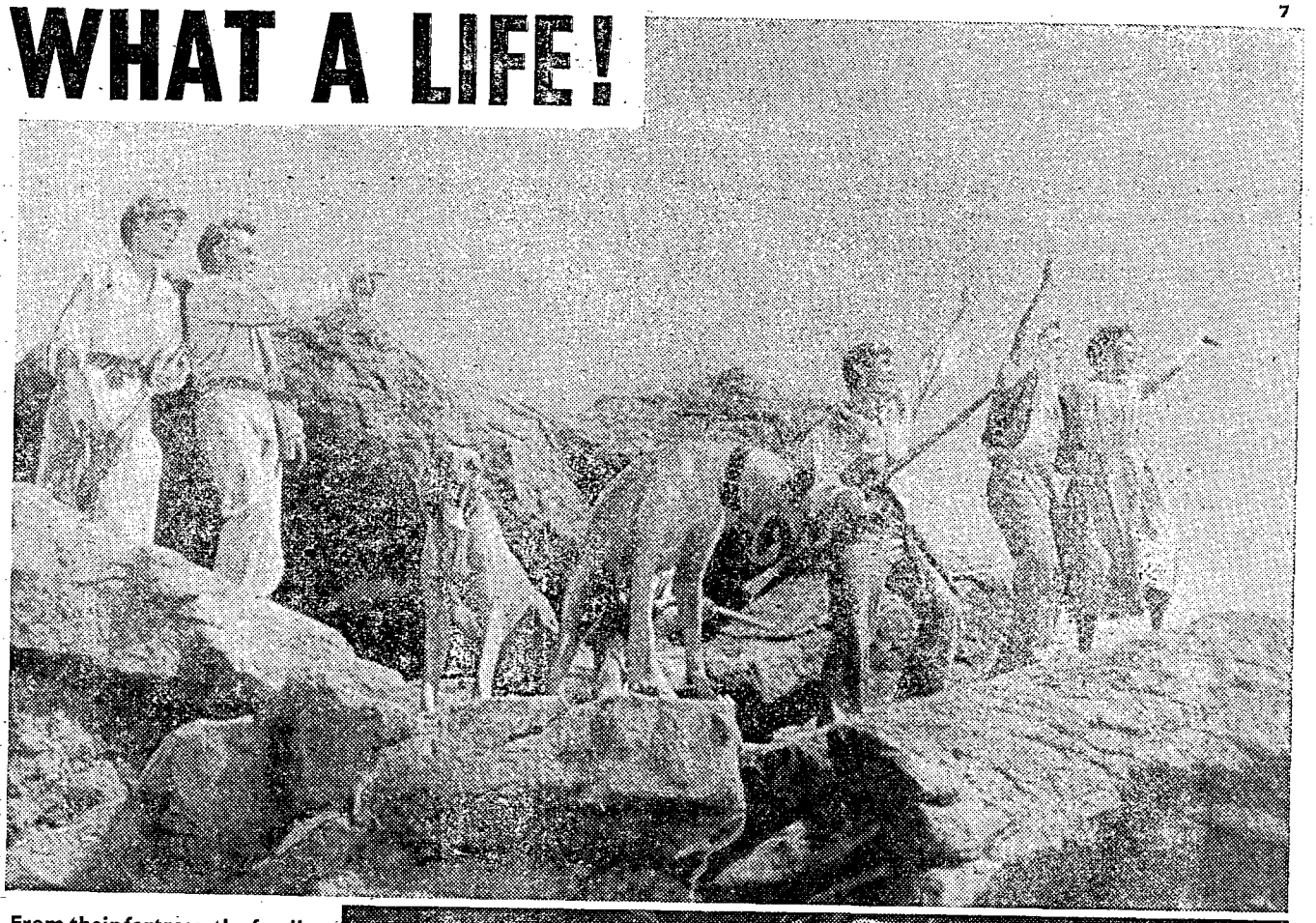
AN ISLAND! WHAT A LIFE!

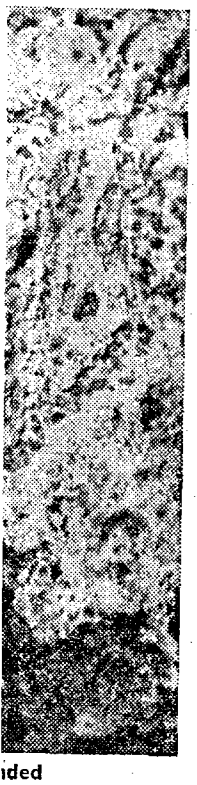


An artist's drawing of the Robinson's home in the tree



From their fortress, the family welcomes the rescue ship

' captive, at bay



ıded

Ernst rides an ostrich in the family animal race

Ernst and Fritz return from exploring with two new friends

Happy Family—left to right—Roberta (Janet Munro), Father (John Mills), Mother (Dorothy McGuire), little Francis (Kevin Corcoran), Fritz (James MacArthur), Ernst (Tom Kirk)

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BIRD-WATCHING IN WINTER

For bird-watchers, if not for other naturalists, there is just as much to see in the depth of Winter as at other times of year.

The leafless trees help the Winter bird-watcher, and so does the fact that in the Winter he gets up at the same time as the birds, and so sees them at the start of the day, when they are most preoccupied with feeding and so readier to let him approach. Just because it is cold at this time of year and the days are short, the birds have to concentrate all their activities into a shorter time.

Seagulls clamouring for titbits by the Thames in London

The regular bird "gang" of most town and suburban gardens consists of the greenfinch, chaffinch, and house-sparrow among the seed-eaters; the great, blue, and coal tits; the blackbird, song thrush, and mistle thrush; and the robin, hedgesparrow, and wren. The last nine are predominantly eaters of insects and other animal food.

When you go out into the greater space of a town park, you will add several larger birds to this list, notably the carrion crow and wood pigeon and, if there is a reasonably-sized lake, the mute swan, mallard, tufted duck, common pochard, moorhen, and coot.

When you are actually in the streets there is only one common bird to add to the list, and that is the feral pigeon, whose ancestors escaped from dovecots in years gone by, but which now lives as completely wild in our towns as the wood pigeon does in the country.

In many large cities—especially those, like London, Bristol, Liverpool, and Newcastle-on-Tyne, that are situated on an estuary—you will also find seagulls. The commonest of the five kinds you may see in Winter is the black-headed gull. At this time of year it lacks the dark hood of its breeding season which gives it its name, but by the end of January, however, there should be a few birds with the hood just appearing.

The so-called common gull, curiously enough, is much less common than the black-headed gull in most parts of the British Isles. In size it comes between the black-headed gull and the herring gull, the other gull you are likely to see on park lakes or estuaries at this time of year.

As soon as the shortest day is past, the birds begin to signal the return of the sun by increasing song. The January songsters of town parks and gardens include the robin, hedgesparrow, and wren (which are almost always with us), the song thrush, and the great tit. You might not recognise the great tit's so-called "saw-sharpening" note as a song, but another great tit would!

No butterflies in January

January is perhaps the dullest month of the year for the butterfly and moth enthusiast. It is, indeed, the only month of the year in which I have never seen a butterfly on the wing. You may, however, come across a small tortoiseshell butterfly hibernating in a dark corner of your house, or perhaps in the shelter of a shed outside.

Around the street lamps in January you may still find some of the little male Winter moths, which have been fluttering there since October; their females are wingless and must be sought on nearby tree-trunks.

Weeds in a mild Winter

In most parks and gardens the snowdrops are in flower by the end of January, but for almost everything else we have to wait till at least February. A few hardy weeds flower right through the Winter, especially if it is a mild one. They include the daisy, dandelion, groundsel, red dead-nettle, common field speedwell, shepherd's purse, and annual meadow grass.

RICHARD FITTER

ON RECORD

New discs to note

MAX JAFFA: *Romantica* on Columbia SEG8036. Norrie Paramor and his Orchestra provide the background for the haunting violin of Max Jaffa as he plays four of his most frequently requested pieces. Top favourite with Jaffa fans is *Love Is Like A Violin*. (EP. 10s. 11½d.)

MAHALIA JACKSON: *The Power And The Glory* on Philips BBE12375. This very popular coloured singer of spirituals and hymns here records four of her favourite hymns, among them *Abide With Me*. Her deep rich voice has great power and her interpretation of these melodies is most moving. (EP. 12s. 3d.)

DICK JACOBS: *Spartacus* on Coral 45-Q72416. The Dick Jacobs Orchestra and chorus perform the theme from the film *Spartacus*. The production has its gentler moments between battles, and this melody echoes them with a quiet theme. (45. 6s. 4d.)

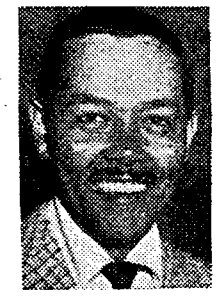
DANNY KAYE: *For Children* on Brunswick LAT 8350. The sleeve of this record shows photographs of Danny as he toured the world for UNICEF. He dedicates the disc to all the children he met. The songs include *Tubby The Tuba, The Little White Duck*, and *Popo The Puppet*. (LP. 35s. 9½d.)

VICTOR SILVESTER: *Victor Silvester Plays For Your Party* on Columbia SEG 8044. Recently Victor Silvester became the first British recording artist to receive a platinum disc to mark the sale of 30 million records. To celebrate, he made this record of popular dances. (EP. 10s. 7½d.)

BARRY TUCKWELL: *Mozart Horn Concertos Number One* and *Number Three* on Decca LXT 5593. Young Australian Barry Tuckwell has been named as a successor to the late Dennis Brain, and this recording demonstrates his great talent. The two Mozart Concertos require a strong contrast in styles, Number One is light-hearted, while Number Three is rather more serious. As well as the horn concertos the disc includes the beautiful Mozart *Clarinet Concerto in A Major* played by Gervase de Peyer. (LP. 38s. 1½d.)

MITCH MILLER: *Folk Songs Sing-Along With Mitch* on Philips BBL7409. Mitch Miller was one of America's leading oboe players before he turned to the recording industry, where he is now a top executive. Occasionally he records himself, and his "Sing-Along" series has become very popular. On this disc he and his choir sing old melodies like *The Blue Tail Fly* and *Oh Susanna*. An ideal record for cold afternoons at home. (LP. 35s. 9½d.)

BILLY ECKSTINE: *Basie/Eckstine Incorporated* on Columbia SEG8043. Billy Eckstine, together with the Count Basie Orchestra, offer us a special aspect of Negro folk music. The four songs here are based on the blues style of singing which suits Eckstine's voice. Among the titles are *Little Mama* and *Stormy Monday Blues*. The themes are frequently sad but there is always a wry humour to be found in the lyrics. (EP. 10s. 7½d.)



CENTRAL AFRICAN PIONEER—the story of Cecil Rhodes (1)

Cecil Rhodes, the founder of Rhodesia, was born in 1853, the son of the Vicar of Bishop's Stortford in Hertfordshire. He was a quiet, reserved boy, and his early ambition was to become a clergyman. But he grew up to win vast riches and write his name indelibly on the story of Africa.

UNEXPECTED ADVENTURES AWAIT YOUNG RHODES. SEE NEXT WEEK'S INSTALMENT

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THE CONWAYS TAKE COVER

by Geoffrey Morgan

Having discovered the identity of the wreck off Gullmarsh Island on which Dr. Bredon is secretly working, and suspecting the boat carried stolen gold, Fergie and the Conways call at the coastguard's cottage at Sandy Point to tell him the whole story, only to find that Mr. Thompson is not at home. Disappointed, they return to Potter's Quay that evening and sail down to Gullmarsh Island in the dinghy. Tied up at the island jetty is another motor launch alongside the one used by Dr. Bredon. Fergie looks through the binoculars and tells his companions that it is Thompson's boat . . .

12. Mr Thompson produces a surprise

JERRY stared at the island jetty. "Thompson's boat!" he exclaimed incredulously. "Are you sure, Fergie?"

Fergie trimmed the mainsheet as they slowly began sailing back up river, and passed the binoculars to Jerry.

"See for yourself," he said, and then quickly added: "But, of course, you don't know the boat

"Thompson's boat!" Jerry exclaimed. "Are you sure, Fergie?"

—you can take it from me though, that it's definitely Mr. Thompson's launch."

"Guess you should know, Fergie," Jane said, looking back at the dusky scene, and expecting at any moment to see figures on the jetty. "But what can he be doing there?"

"Your guess is as good as mine," Fergie replied. "I suppose it must be a duty call."

"You mean in connection with the 'plane crash?" suggested Jane.

"Well—yes. As it came down in the river and is in his area, I suppose he'd have to have full details. He'd want to know if it was going to be raised; and if not, whether it would cause an obstruction. He'd have to make a full report and that would mean interviewing Bredon."

Jerry had sat down again and, leaning back against the coaming, appeared to be deeply pondering the situation.

"You don't think, Fergie," he said at length, "that our chat with Thompson this morning set him off on the trail and that he's now doing a bit of investigation on his own?"

"But we didn't give anything away," Fergie pointed out. "As far as he was concerned I was merely a chap who kept a record for my personal interest."

"We told him there was a wreck there. We said we'd salvaged a bit of it and he did say he'd call and examine it in the morning." Jerry glanced astern. "He might have thought we were on to something, and knew more than we'd admitted. So he's begun making his own inquiries."

"I hadn't thought of that." Fergie's frown vanished and his eyes glinted hopefully.

"He's certainly the only one who can get close to the scene without raising suspicion," Jane reminded them. "And with the 'plane crash as an excuse I'd say he can drop in on Bredon any time."

"Well, let's stooge around for a bit," Jerry suggested. "See when he leaves. If our guess is right he may come for a word with us."

They continued their course up river for another ten minutes and then went about, running down before the breeze which was beginning to freshen. The shadows along the shore and around the house had darkened as the twilight deepened over the river, but still the jetty remained deserted and nothing moved aboard the ketch. The light burned in the ground floor window of the house, gleaming brighter in the darkness, the only indication that someone was there.

Fergie spun *Whisper* round within two hundred yards of the jetty, and they headed back again into the strengthening wind.

The approach of nightfall threatened a change in the weather. A bank of ragged cloud began to loom up over the horizon in the south-west, blotting out the first evening stars and heralding rain squalls.

Jane glanced apprehensively at the sky and then considered the friendly twinkle of the distant lights of Potter's Quay.

"Don't fancy we're going to see anything if the weather breaks," she announced meaningly.

Restless night

Fergie nodded, looking towards the south-west.

"Doesn't look too promising, does it?" he said. "When Mr. Thompson *does* leave he's not likely to see us in the dark, especially if it's raining and anyway, I'd say he'll go straight home. If he did come up to Potter's Quay he knows he'll find us aboard *Mirelda*."

They both looked at Jerry expectantly.

"I suppose you're right," Jerry said at length. "Not much point in hanging about in the dark and getting a soaking We'll just have to wait till morning."

Neither Jerry nor Fergie had much sleep that night, and it was not all due to the storm, although that was severe enough. Thunderclaps that seemed to make even the stout hull of *Mirelda* tremble, the hiss of rain lashing the deck above them, and the piercing scream of the wind made an inferno of noise that should have awakened the heaviest sleeper. But the barge was in no danger, securely warped and lying snugly on the Hard.

Jane hurries the breakfast

Long before dawn the storm had faded and died. But it was not until the first faint streaks of light pierced the cabin gloom that the boys fell into a restless sleep, only to be awakened by the brisk, cheerful sounds from the galley as Jane prepared breakfast.

Although her head had buzzed with unanswered questions when she had climbed into her bunk, Jane had fallen asleep before the storm had broken and in her warm, cosy cabin had slept on undisturbed by it. She had awakened at seven o'clock with the exciting thought that many of her questions might be solved that morning when they called on the coastguard, and so she had lost no time in organising an early departure. Thus she had breakfast almost ready by the time her two sleepy-eyed companions appeared.

"You'd better get a move on," she said. "It's a lovely morning. Mr. Thompson might go out early."

"There's a bus at eight-thirty," Fergie returned, towelling his face. "We'll be ringing his doorbell by nine."

"And I don't think he'll be out this time," Jerry commented. "After that note I'd say he'll be as keen to see us as we are to see him."

No trace of the storm

It was a warm, still morning with a brilliant blue sky, and nowhere was there a trace of the violent events of the night. Even the lane to the coastguard's cottage had already dried, and the only evidence of the downpour were the trickles of water on either side of its tarred surface.

Mr. Thompson might have been waiting in the hall so promptly did the door open after Fergie had pressed the bell.

"Ah, my friends from *Mirelda*," he said, holding the door wide. Then he led them into the room which served as his office and Fergie introduced Jane.

When they were seated Mr. Thompson produced their note.

"Well?" he urged. "What is this information you're anxious to give me?"

"It's about the wreck off Gullmarsh we asked you about yesterday," Fergie began.

"We think—well—we're sure, we've identified the boat," Jerry put in.

"But I told you I'd no record of a wreck off Gullmarsh Island," said Mr. Thompson.

"And we know why," Fergie exclaimed.

Jerry leaned forward, glancing at Fergie.

"We'd better explain about the stolen salvage first," he suggested, and looked back at their host. "You'll remember us telling you about the bit of wreckage we found with some letters on it?"

"Yes. I said I'd examine it this morning."

"When we got back to *Mirelda* yesterday, it had gone." Jerry paused. "Someone had boarded the barge and stolen it. So we decided——"

"In Dr. Bredon's launch"

"Just a moment." Mr. Thompson rose suddenly and went out of the room. He came back a moment later with a short piece of jagged timber. "Is this it?" He turned the object over so that they could see the letters on the other side.

"Why—yes," Jerry gasped at length. "Where did you find it?"

Mr. Thompson placed the object on his desk and sat down again.

"In Dr. Bredon's launch," he said.

To be continued

THE QUEENSCOURT BRIDESMAIDS

No. 344

A wonderful story to read of a school wedding . . . and for Kitty Jordan and Leonora Vardon the marvellous thrill of being bridesmaids. Don't miss this exciting story featuring the popular co-ed chums of Queenscourt in a delightful adventure.

ALSO

No. 343 THEY MUST SAVE THE SHOW

Once "Top of the Pops," Kit and Ken now had their big chance to stage a "come-back" as "Cinders" and "Buttons" in pantomime. The efforts of a rival producer made it an uphill fight, but they were determined to succeed. A thrilling story of the theatre.

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WORLD SCOUTS IN A CITY OF TENTS DOWN UNDER

More than 15,000 Scouts will take part in the Australian Jamboree to be held near Sydney from 29th December to 9th January.

About 14,000 of them will be from Australia, New Zealand, and New Guinea. Others will come from Indonesia, Singapore, North Borneo, Sarawak, Japan, Hong Kong, Fiji, Nauru, New Hebrides, and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands.

Europe will be represented by a small group from Holland, and Britain by the three Queen's Scouts in our photograph: Ivor Hyde of Barling Magna, Essex; David Orton of Walsall; and Arthur Longmore of Sheffield.

The Jamboree will be held at Lansdowne, 16 miles from the centre of Sydney, on a 400-acre site that was lightly timbered bush land a few months ago and now has roads, permanent buildings, street lights, telephones, and water mains.

During the Jamboree Lansdowne will be a city of tents clustered round a shopping centre complete with banks, post office, recreation halls, and even a publishing office for the production of a special daily newspaper.

It takes a lot of food to satisfy 15,000 hungry Scouts and some idea of the quantity needed can be gathered from a few items on order: 9,600 gallons of milk; 67,000 lb. of meat; 12,800 lb. of sausages; 93,000 lb. of bread; 7,000 lb. of biscuits; 28,000 lb. of cake; 19,000 dozen eggs; 10,000 lb. of jam.

Yes, a lot of food, but it's a fair guess that there won't be much left when the Jamboree ends.

BRIMFUL OF BRIGHT IDEAS

The National Schoolboys' Exhibition is now open at London's Olympia and lasts until 7th January.

This grand annual show, a traditional part of the Christmas holidays, is bigger and brighter than ever this year. In the main hall there is a Flying circus where model jet planes zoom up to the roof. Up in the gallery is the Sporting Circle where visitors race in electric go-karts and show what they can do at soccer, cricket, tennis, golf and many other sports —diplomas being awarded to those who qualify in any four.

At the Kodak stand the enthusiast can try his hand at Press photography. A film of a soccer match is shown and you press a button at what you consider to be the most exciting moment. Then you see the picture you have taken.

For the handyman there is the electricity showhouse and a job of fixing 38 plug points in the right places in the shortest possible time.

Scotland Yard has arranged a feature in which budding detectives inspect a gallery of street scenes and report anything which looks suspicious.

There is a special exhibit, *Science at War with Hunger*, including a demonstration of how the Sahara Desert might be turned into fertile land.

Other excitements include a trip to the Moon and an electronic bowling alley.

Result of C N Stamp Competition

The neatest correct entries according to age in the C N stamps competition were sent in by: **Keith Bullock,** Liverpool 23; **Derek Cockle,** Maldon; **Christine Hobbs,** Petersfield; **Gillian Procter,** Wirral; **Joan Park,** Tollerton; and **David Ward,** Dorchester.

These readers were each awarded a stock-book containing a selection of pictorial stamps.

Solution: 1. Finland; 2. Hungary; 3. Norway; 4. Poland; 5. Spain; 6. Austria; 7. Sweden; 8. Switzerland; 9. France; 10. Denmark.

WORLD OF STAMPS

1960 has been a great year for collectors

WHAT an exciting year 1960 has been for stamp collectors! In Britain we have had special issues for the European Postal Conference and for the 300th anniversary of the Post Office. In the Commonwealth new series have been issued by Gibraltar, Cyprus, New Zealand, and East Africa.

Of the many commemorative series, perhaps the most beautiful was that issued in Malta to celebrate the 19th centenary of St. Paul's shipwreck on the island.

The Old Year ends with another

special issue from Malta. It marks the centenary of the first Maltese stamps and comprises three values, each with a picture, in reduced size, of the original stamps of 1860.

At that time the Maltese Post Office had no stamps of its own and was using British stamps. Great Britain, however, had no halfpenny value, and as this was the postage rate for letters within the Maltese islands, Malta had to issue halfpenny stamps of her own.

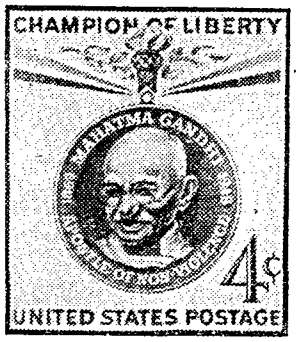
They showed a portrait of Queen Victoria and were printed in pale orange, making their design very indistinct. The postmarks used a century ago were thick and heavy, so that although the Maltese ½d. stamps are not rare, good specimens are hard to find.

THE 1960 Olympic Games brought special stamps from about 40 countries. Some, like the Somali mentioned two weeks ago, did not appear until long after the Games had ended. The countries issuing these late-comers realise that the popularity of sports stamps will ensure a ready sale.

COLLECTORS of stamps showing flowers have had a busy year, too. All the low values of the New Zealand series depict flowers in their natural colours. Bulgaria, Israel, Switzerland, and far away Norfolk Island have also chosen flowers for new issues.

Even the humble dandelion has achieved philatelic distinction this year. It was one of the flowers included in the Swiss charity series I mentioned three weeks ago. Since then the Iceland Post Office has announced the issue of two flower stamps.

One of them features the dandelion, and the artist has cleverly introduced a pattern of the little seed "parachutes" at the side of the stamp.

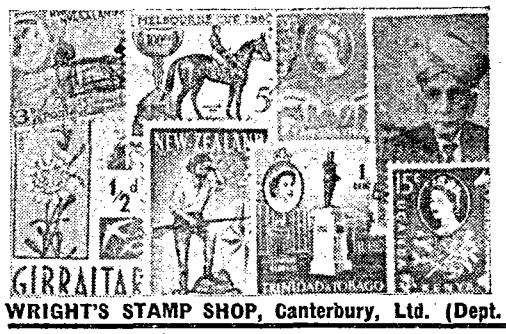


LOOKING ahead, we can be sure that 1961 will bring many more interesting issues. South Africa is planning to change her currency from sterling to cents and rands. This change will mean new stamps not only in South Africa but in several other territories which use her currency.

The first American commemoratives of the New Year will be two stamps honouring the great Indian leader, Mahatma Gandhi.

C. W. HILL

10 NEW B.C. INC. GIANT NEW ZEALAND CHRISTMAS ISSUE



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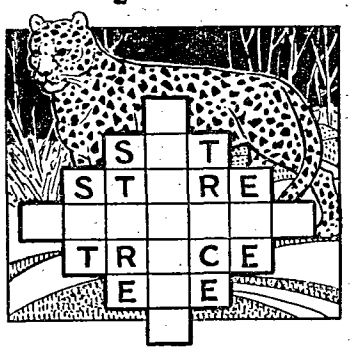
PUZZLE PARADE

Making a name for him

Here are five boys' Christian names. Can you, by taking one letter from each, form a sixth Christian name?

PERCY; Harold; Oswald; Timothy; Gordon.

SPOTS AND SQUARES



CAN you identify the animal illustrated? If you can do so, put the letters forming the name into the blank squares, both down and across, to complete a word diamond.

HOWLER

AN equinox is a wild animal that lives in the Arctic.

GOOD FOR YOU

MY first is in engine and also in train,
My second's in lose but not in gain.
My third is in wizard and also in witch,
My fourth is in wealthy but not in rich.
My fifth is in treasure and also in chest,
My sixth is in east but not in west.
My seventh's in forest but not in glade—
My whole is a time resolutions are made!

Can you find the money?

Each sentence contains the name of a form of currency. Now see how quickly you can get the money.

THE wolf ran close to the edge of the wood.
Omar Khayyam was Persia's best-known poet.
Will I race against the record-holder?
This hill, in gradient, is the most difficult of the course.
He looks splendid in army uniform.
To rest properly, you should lie down.

FREE SPEECH

MR. A met his friend, Mr. B, and said:

"Good-morning, Mr. B. Did you say, or did you not say, what I said you said? Mr. C said you said you never did say what I said you said. Now if you did say that you did not say what I said you said, what did you say?

THREE'S COMPANY

In this word puzzle (a) is a clue to a three-letter word which, with another letter added, gives the answer to (b). A further letter is added to make a five-letter answer to clue (c). Example: fee, feet, fleet.

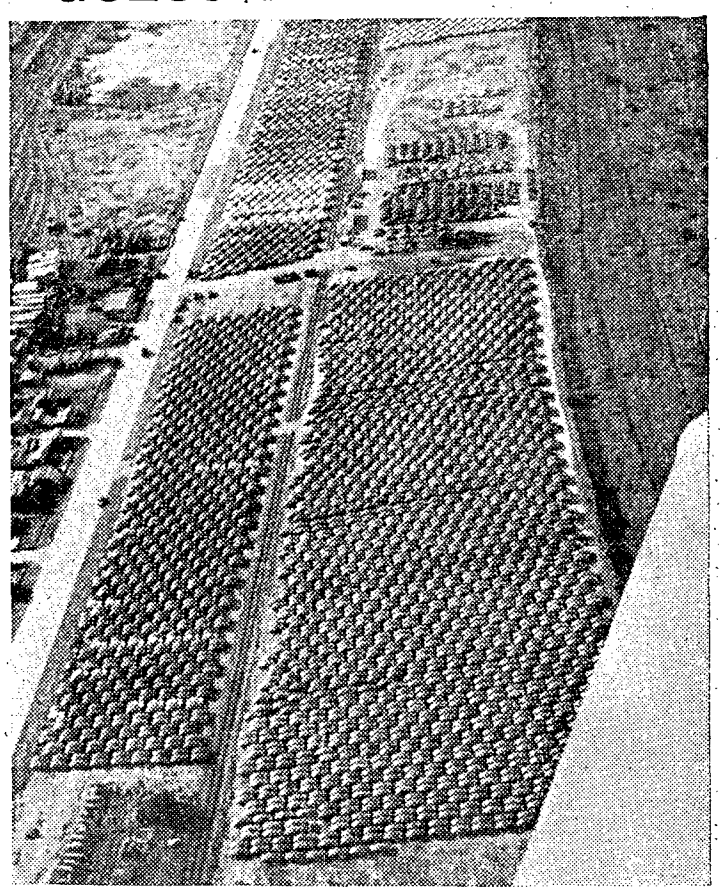
Answers are given in column 5

1. (a) Worn by barristers.
   (b) Found on a bird.
   (c) Squeeze by twisting.
2. (a) In bad health.
   (b) Lower than a mountain.
   (c) Lacking warmth.
3. (a) Secret agent.
   (b) Nimble in movement.
   (c) Wind-blown water.
4. (a) Head covering.
   (b) Make hot.
   (c) Grain for bread.
5. (a) Five to a foot.
   (b) Musical sound.
   (c) Small piece of rock.
6. (a) Part of a circle.
   (b) Curved overhead structure.
   (c) Make very dry.

Locust power

A LOCUST with wing-power to spare
Flew up, and still up in the air.
"I'm a locust no more,"
He exclaimed, "for I soar——
They must call me a highcust down there."

GUESS WHAT IS HERE



Looking not unlike a piece of woven material, this is really an air view of a big car park at Southampton Docks. The cars had been imported from the Continent.

MYSTERY BAGS

HERE is a game which will test the memory and sense of touch of guests at a party.

Collect a number of small objects—peanut, paper clip, clothes-peg, cotton reel, button, and so on—and put them secretly into a paper bag. Prepare several such bags with similar objects before asking the players to sit round a table. Give each a bag and tell him to hold it out of sight under the table. When the players are ready, tell them that they must try to judge by feeling (but not looking at the contents of the bag. At the end of three minutes, say, each player must make a list of the objects which he thinks his bag contains.

When all lists are completed, open any bag and call out the names of each object, players checking their lists to see how many have been correctly guessed.

Why not give a small prize to the player whose sense of touch and memory has produced the best list?

ADD A TOUCH OF COLOUR

CAN you link each kind of paint in the tubes with the appropriate illustration to form five well-known expressions?

Miss Parker's idea of a present

FOR Christmas Anne and Christopher bought gloves for Mummy, sheepskin-lined slippers for Daddy, and two small spongy rubber balls on elastic strings for Mr. Portly and Miss Parker.

"The cats will enjoy playing with those as a change from their table tennis balls," said Mummy.

Mr. Portly certainly did. But Miss Parker turned her back when Anne tried to play with her.

"Not her idea of a present evidently!" laughed Daddy, sitting down to try on his new slippers.

"But this is," thought Miss Parker as she shoved her head into the toe of one of them. Round she went in circles with it on the carpet, purring: "Lovely warm thing!"

"Hi! That's mine!" cried Daddy, pulling her head out. "This is yours!" And he swung her ball towards her.

Miss Parker pounced, bit her ball angrily off its elastic, then stuck her head in the slipper again. Quickly she scuffled it across the carpet, and under the toy cupboard.

There they left her while they went to church.

It was after dinner when she came out—backwards, with her head stuck so tightly in the slipper that she could not pull it out.

"Not my idea of a present, after all," she mewed crossly, when they released her. And she jabbed at her new ball as Anne tried bowling it past her. To her surprise her claws sank right into it!

Holding it so, she turned on her back and pedalled at it excitedly with her hind feet till it shot across the room.

"This IS my idea of a present!" she purred, chasing and catching it, and beginning the lovely game again.

So Anne chose well, after all.

JANE THORNICROFT

Two from one

FIRST, find an eight-letter word giving the name of a sea creature found on rocks and timbers. When you have done so, re-arrange the letters to form two four-letter words, the first meaning thin, and the second giving the name of another sea creature.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Making a name for him. Edwin.
Good for you. New Year.
Spots and squares.

L
sEt
stOre
LEOPARD
trAce
eRe
D

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

Y	O	R	E	■	S	T	O	P
O	■	A	L	L	O	W	■	E
G	R	I	M	■	L	I	N	E
A	I	D	■	F	I	N	A	L
■	V	■	O	L	D	■	T	■
M	E	R	R	Y	■	C	A	P
A	R	I	D	■	P	O	L	E
R	■	L	E	V	E	R	■	A
E	V	E	R	■	T	E	N	T

Add a touch of colour. Black as ink; white as snow; red as a rose; blue as the sky; green as grass. **Can you find the money?** Franc; mark; lira; shilling; dinar; ore. **Two from one.** Barnacle—lean, crab.

THREE'S COMPANY

1 Wig, wing, wring. 2 ill, hill, chill. 3 spy, spry, spray. 4 hat, heat, wheat. 5 toe, tone, stone. 6 arc, arch, parch.

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Pat on the back for young Stanley Matthews

"He is Britain's most outstanding young tennis player, with a brilliant future almost certainly ahead."

That was how a C N reporter described young Stanley Matthews after he had won the British junior championship a few months ago. Mr. W. E. Ramsden, chairman of the Lawn Tennis Association, said almost the same thing the other day.

"Already there is emerging one bright star in the firmament," said Mr. Ramsden, "young Stanley Matthews, who, at 14 years nine months, was the youngest player ever to win the junior championship.

"This young boy is dedicating himself to the game with the same zeal and intensity that his illustrious father has given to football and I predict a great future for him."

Stanley is certainly a glutton for work. During the winter months he is staying in London and playing twice a day seven days a week.

Mr. Ramsden also spoke of the great progress of the game among young players. The number of junior players and junior tournaments had continued to increase, and a record number of 1,034 schools were now affiliated to the Association.

The Boys' Schools L.T.A., founded only two years ago, already had a membership of 143. the Girls' Schools L.T.A. now had over 500, and the Public Schools L.T.A. had 108 members —80 per cent. of all those eligible to join.

With the formation of the Lawn Tennis Foundation, announced a few weeks ago, even greater results are expected.

RACING CARS ON SHOW

The world's biggest exhibition of racing cars will be on view in London next week when the second Racing Car Show is held at the Royal Horticultural Halls.

More than 60 racing cars will be on show, ranging from the 1924 Grand Prix Sunbeam, Britain's first supercharged racing machine, to the Cooper in which Jack Brabham this year won the world championship for the second time. Also displayed will be the Mercedes-Benz in which Fangio won the title in 1954 and 1955.

The exhibition will cover almost every aspect of competition motoring, from glass-fibre body shells, to go-karts, and engines. The London Motor Club's stand will take the form of a rally control point.

To enable visitors to see what is going on in both halls at the same time a closed circuit large screen television has been installed.

The show is being held from Saturday 31st December to 7th January. Admission on both Saturdays is 5s. for adults and 2s. for children. On weekdays admission for adults is 3s.

SCRAPBOOK: A. Badminton B. Ice Hockey

Ski-ing girls get ready for 1964

The 1964 Winter Olympics seem a long way off, but Britain's leading girl ski-ers are already busy training in Austria as part of their four-year preparation.

Altogether eleven girls have been chosen to spend the Winter on the Continent, six to represent Britain in this season's events in Italy, France, Switzerland, and

Austria, and the other five to form a "B" team.

Youngest of the British team of six is 17-year-old Tania Heald, of Bray, Berkshire. The former British junior champion, Tania is seen here in a specially-designed ski-ing helmet.

Running into the New Year

World-famous distance runners will be in action as 1961 makes its entrance. They will be taking part in the exhausting round-the-houses race at Sao Paulo, Brazil, which starts just before midnight on 31st December and finishes in the New Year.

Some 300 runners are expected to take part, among them being Murray Halberg, New Zealand's Olympic 5,000 metres champion, Gordon Pirie, and Russia's Peter Bolotnikov, the Olympic 10,000 metres winner.

The Sao Paulo race is one of the toughest in the world. Apart from the problem of running on cobble stones and jostling for position in the narrow gaily-decorated streets, competitors have to contend with the humidity and height (3,000 feet), particularly trying to newcomers.

Mystery torch-bearer

Wales also stages a round-the-houses race on New Year's Eve, at Mountain Ash, Glamorgan. The climax of the day is the appearance of a "mystery runner" who appears out of the darkness carrying a lighted torch. The runner, whose identity is kept secret, represents the spirit of the legendary Welsh runner Guto Nythbran.

The four-mile round-the-houses race, which starts at 11.46 p.m. on 31st December, will include such runners as Stan Eldon, Frank Salvat, and Bruce Tulloh.

Dog-owners in the neighbourhood have been asked to keep a special watch on their animals. Half-way through last year's race, Bruce Tulloh was chased by an alsatian!

Arthur Keily, the Derby marathon runner, will also be pounding the roads on Saturday — and attempting to set up a unique record.

The annual 13½-miles road race from Morpeth to Newcastle is usually held on New Year's Day, but as it falls on Sunday this year the race has been brought forward. So Arthur, who won in record time on 1st January, 1960, will be all out to become the first man to win the event twice in the same year.

ALL EYES ON THE SECOND TEST

Few Test Matches have been so eagerly awaited as the one which begins on Friday at Melbourne between Australia and the West Indies.

And little wonder! After the memorable first Test which ended a fortnight ago in a tie (the first ever recorded in a Test Match), M.C.C. secretary, Mr. Ronnie Aird said: "This match will go down in history as one of the greatest Tests of all time. It is a pattern for everyone to follow."

It certainly was a great game, with both teams going all out for victory and giving scarcely a thought to merely avoiding defeat. The whole cricketing world will benefit if the rest of this series follows the same pattern.

OVER THE HORSE

Elizabeth West goes over the vaulting horse in fine style in the gym of her school at Mitcham, Surrey. Elizabeth is a promising sprinter.

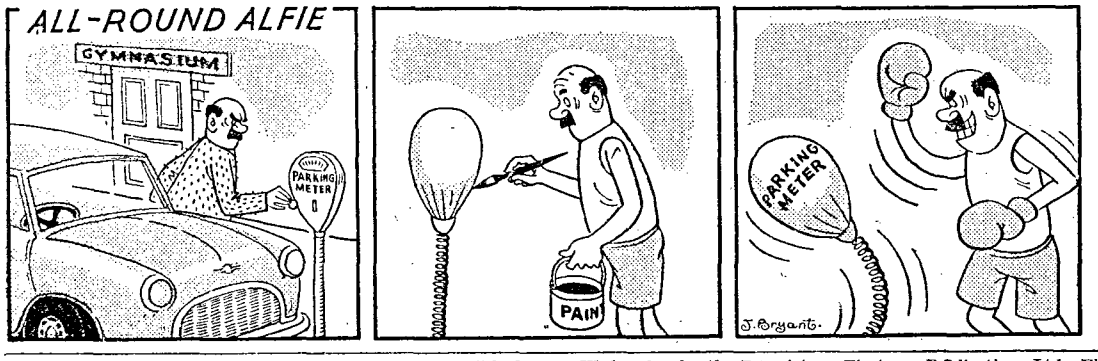
Rowe twins play together again

Surprise entrants in the English Open table tennis championships next week are Diane Rowe and her twin sister Rosalind, now Mrs. Cornett.

In 1951 and 1954 they won the world's women's doubles title, but when Rosalind married a few years ago she gave up serious play, although she has competed in a few mixed doubles events. Next week's games will be the first competition matches the twins have played together for four years.

Unfortunately, the partnership is not likely to continue for long— Rosalind is the mother of three children and cannot spare the time for regular practice.

The championships, which are being held at Greenwich from 2nd to 7th of January, have a mixed bag of competitors. Among the entrants are six Yugoslavs, six Swedes, five West Germans, and two Hungarians.



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S.L.